

**Testimony before the Appropriations Committee
DMHAS Budget Hearing
H.B. No. 7027 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM
ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH 2019, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR.
February 23, 2017
Testimony from Trudy Collier (Hartford)**

Good afternoon Senator Formica, Senator Osten, Representative Walker and members of the Appropriations committee.

My name is Antonio C. Iv'e being a sibling of 4 of us. Me being the second adult I have learned that people with mental health have a voice. We can show our values to live life beyond all promises. We are the part of community that should be in all laws as protected citizens. I myself have had several suicide attempts and today my life has meaning. I have learned how low mental health through self-esteem has concord me. My life has to improve where I have learned to love my self and also accept others in my life. The way my life is going am happy am proud of many legislators which have struggle to keep Medicare Medicaid Obama Care ,Blue shield Blue Cross and also Husky Insurances alive. Without the insurance of practice I would probably be less than 7 feet in the ground. My facility of medication has proven too me a better way of living. Stigmas will always be upon life but they can also show and improve what defines a better lifestyle. I have found myself with in the use of abilities of mental health. Not only my life will be tortured but many others also with the present cuts on the budget. The one and only thing that wakes me up is the grateful ability to be on medication. Also not just any medication but the correct so that I can live strong and triumph with my medication for my Bipolar disorder. I have been in many close doors and the mental health services I receive at the present moment have gave me prosper and success to strive a better future. I feel not alone but with the gratitude of legislators I can prosper and help others. As for so many counsellors and others in this status can move forward upon recovering from mental health have showed me. Showing the world that it is possible to make and create the change of moving forward.

Antonio C.